

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6140**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 25**

**DATE PREPARED:** Feb 16, 2001

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 15, 2001

**SUBJECT:** Indiana Ethics Commission.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** John Parkey

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9854

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** ☒ **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill redefines the term "employer" for purposes of the ethics statute. This bill authorizes the Commission to dismiss a complaint if the Commission is satisfied that an agency within the executive department of state government has dealt with the complaint appropriately. The bill provides that Commission evidence relating to an investigation is confidential until certain events occur. The bill provides that a Commission report may recommend that an appointing authority or a state officer issue a letter of counseling to a respondent to a complaint filed with the Commission. The bill makes changes to the information required to be stated on financial disclosure statements filed with the Commission. The bill also provides that a state officer or employee may not retaliate against a former employee because the former employee filed a complaint with the Commission, provided information to the Commission, or testified before the Commission. The bill prohibits a person from taking certain actions that would interfere with a Commission proceeding or investigation.

The bill makes other changes in the state ethics statute.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Penalty Provision:* Current law allows the State Ethics Commission to impose a civil penalty up to \$10,000 for certain violations of the state ethics statute. If the provisions contained in this bill increase the number of fines imposed by the Commission, state General Fund revenue could increase slightly.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Executive Office Agencies.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** David Maidenberg, Director, Ethics Commission, (317) 232-3850.